

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTIETH REGULAR CONVENTION

OF THE

EV. LUTH. JOINT SYNOD OF OHIO
AND OTHER STATES.

HELD AT HAMILTON, BUTLER CO., OHIO,

OCTOBER 22.—23. 1874.

COLUMBUS, O.:

JOHN J. GASSMANN, PRINTER.

1875.

OFFICERS OF SYNOD.

PRESIDENT	<i>Prof. M. Loy.</i>
VICE PRESIDENT	<i>Prof. W. F. Lehmann.</i>
GERMAN RECORDING SECRETARY	<i>Pastor H. F. Belser.</i>
ENGLISH RECORDING SECRETARY.	<i>Pastor H. A. Becker.</i>
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY .	<i>Prof. E. Schmid.</i>
TREASURER	<i>Mr. Julius Klingler.</i>

MINUTES

of the twentieth regular Convention of the Evang. Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and other States, held at Hamilton, O., Oct. 22.—28. 1874.

The members of this Synod convened on Thursday, October 22., 1874, in the morning at 9 o'clock, in the church of the Ev. Luth. Zion Congregation at Hamilton, Ohio,—G. H. Trebel, Pastor. The Synod was opened with the usual liturgical service by its ven. President, Prof. M. Loy. Fourteen sessions were held, each of which, excepting the first, was opened by the chaplain appointed to this office, and closed with appropriate prayers and benedictions. On account of the vast amount of business to be transacted only three sessions were devoted to the discussion of doctrine. May the blessings of God rest upon the work that has been done, that His name be glorified and the interests of His kingdom promoted.

The following members of Synod, clerical and lay, were present at this convention:

I. THE NORTHERN DISTRICT.

PASTORS.	POST OFFICE ADDRESS.	LAY DELEGATES.
J. Bauch.....	Oak Harbor, Ottawa Co., O	
H. F. Belser.....	New Washington, Crawford Co., O	J. A. Schnetz.
W. K. Braunwarth	Dundee, Monroe Co., Mich	
C. Buechler	Bellevue, Huron Co., O	
A. Buerkle.....	Woodville, Sandusky Co., O	
M. Buerkle	Findlay, O.....	K. Hahn.
C. A. J. Cramer ...	Sulphur Springs, Crawford Co., O	
G. Cronenwett.....	Woodville, Sandusky Co., O	G. Albert.
L. Dammann.....	Liverpool, Medina Co., O.....	
G. Dillmann	Wooster, O	
J. Dornbirer.....	Loudonville, Ashland Co., O.....	
C. Eirich.....	Homerville, Medina Co., O	Ph. Doerrhammer.
F. Eppling	Kirchhain, Wis	
C. Gebauer.....	Jelloway P. O., Knox Co., O.....	
J. F. Gerkenmeyer	Venice, Erie Co., O	

PASTORS.	POST OFFICE ADDRESS.	LAY DELEGATES.
J. Graesle	Bucyrus, O	
R. Grætz	Blackswamp, Sandusky Co., O	
W. F. Helle	Upper Sandusky, O	
C. E. Herbst	Sheldon, Allen Co., Ind	
A. Hordorf	Sandusky City, O	
C. Huebner	Delphos, Allen Co., O	
S. Hunziker	Cardington, Morrow Co., O	A. Huebner.
L. Krebs	Mansfield, O	
J. Kucher	Fort Wayne, Ind ¹	G. Riethmueller.
H. Lang	Fremont, O	
J. G. Lehrer	Sandusky City, O	
A. Michaelis	Monroe, Mich	
C. R. O. Mueller	Ashland, O	
Chr. Raths	Oak Harbor, Ottawa Co., O	
G. Reif	Marion, O	
C. Schlenker	Toledo, O	
A. C. Ulrich	Norwalk, Huron Co., O	
J. F. N. Wolf	Jackson, Mich	

II. THE EASTERN DISTRICT.

S. Bachler	Youngstown, O	
C. Ciesler	Transfer, Mercer Co., Pa	
W. F. Deisz	Meadville, Pa	
F. E. Fickeissen	Shippensburg, Clarion Co., Pa	
F. A. Herzberger	Pittsburg, Pa	John Niebel.
W. C. H. Luebker	Butler, Pa	J. Klingler.
G. F. H. Meiser	Youngstown, O	G. Læmle.
A. H. Feldmann	Canton, O	
G. J. Long	Canfield, Mahoning Co., O	
G. C. L. Kittel	Carrick, Allegheny Co., Pa	
M. F. Laufer	Leetonia, Columbiana Co., O	
A. H. Schmidt	Hubbard, Trumbull Co., O	G. Krimmer.
Chas. Schmidt	Warren, Trumbull Co., O	
L. Vogelsang	South Oil City, Venango Co., Pa	
A. W. Werder	Wheeling, W. Va	
F. Wilhelm	Denny, Butler Co., Pa	
O. von Zech	Beaver Falls, Beaver Co., Pa	

III. THE WESTERN DISTRICT.

F. W. Althoff	Springfield, O	
C. H. Althoff	Greenville, Darke Co., O	L. Deininger.
G. Bachmann	Reading, O	
E. A. Boehme	Union City, Ind	J. Veit.
C. Benzin	Salamonia, Jay Co., Ind	
G. E. Buchholz	Middletown, Butler Co., O	
J. Dingeldey	Sidney, O	Pet. Muthart.
G. Dœpken	Marietta, O	
F. Groth	Dayton, O	W. Mayer.

PASTORS.	POST OFFICE ADDRESS.	LAY DELEGATES.
H. Henkel	Logan, Hocking Co., O.....	P. Keller.
R. Herbst.....	Columbus, O	F. R. Guthke.
C. W. Knuth.....	Sugar Grove, Fairfield Co., O	
W. F. Lehmann ...	Columbus, O	
W. C. Lembke... ..	Marysville, Union Co., O	
W. L. Meyer	Pomeroy, Meigs Co., O.....	
P. H. Mueller	Trenton, Butler Co., O	
C. G. Reichert.....	Grove City, Franklin Co., O	
E. Schmid	Columbus, O	
W. Schmogrow	St. Marys, Auglaize Co., O	H. Reiselt.
P. G. Schmogrow...	Covington, Miami Co., O	B. Hoflinger.
J. A. Schulze	Columbus, O	
J. C. Schulze	Ironton, Lawrence Co., O.....	
Ph. Schmidt.....	Skeels Cross Roads, Mercer Co., O.....	
G. Sutter... ..	Versailles, Darke Co., O	
G. Schwammle	Celina, Mercer Co., O	
H. J. Schuh.....	Canal Winchester, Franklin Co., O	J. H. Spielmann.
P. A. Peter	West Baltimore, Montgomery Co., O.....	
G. H. Trebel	Hamilton, O	C. F. Theisz.
J. G. Theisz	Madisonville, Hamilton Co., O	
F. Wendt	Wapakoneta, Auglaize Co., O	
Delegate of the Cincinnati congregation		Chr. Leseberg.

IV. THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

W. L. Fischer	Milan, Ripley Co., Ind	
G. Lewenstein.....	Richmond, Ind.....	F. Rose.
J. F. Isensee.....	Weisburg, Dearborn Co., Ind	
H. Koenig.....	Evansville, Ind.....	
P. M. Reidenbach..	Evansville, Ind	
R. Weise	Wintersville, Decatur Co., Ind	
F. zur Muehlen....	Bear Branch, Ohio Co., Ind.....	
H. Wickemeyer ...	Richmond, Ind.....	

V. THE ENGLISH DISTRICT.

A. S. Bartholomew	Lima, Allen Co., O	J. Bressler.
G. Baughman	Lewisburg, Preble Co., O	
J. Beck	Lithopolis, Fairfield Co., O	D. Faler.
H. A. Becker.....	Thornville, Perry Co., O	Sch. Mechling.
A. Birch	Lake, Stark Co., O.....	
W. A. Bowman	West Carrollton, O	S. Gebhart.
E. Cronenwett	Delaware, O	L. Smith.
G. A. Harter	Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind	
W. M. Herring	Lima, Allen Co., O	
H. M. Hockman...	Carrollton, O.....	
J. O. Hoffman.....	Prospect, Marion Co., O	
J. Humberger.....	Canal Fulton, Stark Co., O	J. Harter.
B. E. Kemmer	Rokebey, Morgan Co., O.....	
M. Loy	Columbus, O	S. Neiswender.

PASTORS.	POST OFFICE ADDRESS.	LAY DELEGATES.
J. Manning	Deavertown, Morgan Co., O.	
C. J. Oelschläger ..	Waynesburg, Stark Co., O.	
W. J. Schroyer	Johnsville, Montgomery Co., O.	F. Heber.
A. H. Schulze	Circleville, O.	
C. H. L. Schuette ..	Columbus, O.	G. W. Lose.
H. J. Reiman	Mapleton, Stark Co., O.	
J. L. Trauger	Petersburg, O.	
G. W. Umbaugh ..	Cridersville, Auglaize Co., O.	
G. Weber	Madisonburg, Wayne Co., O.	P. W. Motz.
W. A. Weisman ...	Youngstown, O.	G. Karna.

The following Pastors were not present. Those marked (*) were not excused:

I. THE NORTHERN DISTRICT.

PASTORS.	POST OFFICE ADDRESS.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE ADDRESS.
C. Adam	Woodland, Mich.	C. Lilje	Galion, O.
J. Dierfler	Waterloo, Mich.	H. W. Mohrhoff	Chatfield, O.
E. Kornbaum	Pemberville, O.	G. F. Reitz	Arlington, O.
L. F. E. Krause	Anstralia.	J. J. Sutter	Clyde, O.
C. Volz	East Saginaw, Mich.	C. Wernle	Galion, O.

II. THE EASTERN DISTRICT.

*F. C. Becker	Lordstown, O.	*G. Kranz	New Hamburg, Pa.
*C. F. W. Brecht	Perrysville, Pa.	J. M. Meiszner	Punxsutawney, Pa.
*J. G. Butz	Zelienople, Pa.	E. Mahlberg	Breakneck, Pa.
*P. Engers	Shippenville, Pa.	*A. Pohl	Barnhards Mills, Pa.
*J. J. Fast	Canton, O.	*F. Schiedt	Allegheny City, Pa.
*H. Th. E. Hengist	Brookfield, O.	*K. Walz	Sharpsburg, Pa.
D. Simon	Indiana, Pa.	B. F. Schillinger	Petersburg, O.
*J. Hoelsche	Waterloo, Ont.	J. Wilhelm	Eaken P. O., Pa.
J. Hoerr	Baltimore, Md.		

III. THE WESTERN DISTRICT.

*J. Lautenschlager	Ashland, Ky.	H. Willert	Ironton, O.
*C. Lembke	New Bedford, O.	*L. Serr	Montra, O.

IV. THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

*H. Borchers	Seymour, Ind.	D. Warns	Holland, Ind.
*C. Busse	Aurora, Ind.	*H. A. Schächter	Dudleytown, Ind.
*J. F. Lautenschlager ..	Housertown, Ind.	*W. Bauermeister	Stendal, Ind.
C. Mayer	Kellersville, Ind.	*J. M. Köpplin	Olean, Ind.
J. J. Meiszner	Reynolds, Ind.	T. H. Jäger	Patrickburg, Ind.
*H. M. Kreuter	Harrison, O.	*L. A. Detzer	Lynnville, Ind.

V. THE ENGLISH DISTRICT.

W. H. Brown	St. Pauls, O.	E. Friedrichsen	Portland, Oregon.
D. M. Martens	Tyrone, Pa.	E. L. S. Tressel	Baltimore, Md.
G. Yung	New Lexington, O.		

Pastors Wyneken, Mees, and Runkel of the Missouri Synod, Candidate Mees, and the students of Theology at our Seminary at Columbus: Busch, Ræther, Schulze, and Schumann were present at this Synod as guests.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT.

Grace be unto you, and peace from God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

In Christ Jesus Beloved Brethren:

The changes that have taken place during the past few years within the limits of our church in this country have not alleviated our position and task as a synod. By the grace of God much improvement has been made among us, for which we can not be sufficiently grateful to our merciful Lord and Savior. As a rule our congregations are growing in grace and knowledge, and as they become more and more conscious of the glorious treasures they possess in the Ev. Luth. Church, their zeal in the work of the Lord is increasing. Our District Synods, at whose sessions I have been present as frequently as possible, in accordance with the instructions given to me, are laboring with growing zeal for the confirmation of all their members in the unity of the faith by means of unity in knowledge of the pure doctrine of God's word, and for an ever increasing cooperation in obedience to this word, to the glory of God and the welfare of His redeemed. Our connection in the Synodical Conference with other Synods of the same faith has been productive of rich blessings, and will, as we confidently hope, continue to bring forth yet richer blessings. We stand united now with many brethren, on account of which we rejoice. But the end of the work and of the battle is not yet. Let us work while it is day and run with patience in the battle ordained unto us. This is our calling; in this we will walk, without seeking vain honors or temporal pleasures.

The Lord is our King. He alone is Lord in His congregation. Servants, faithful servants He wants in His church, but no proud rulers who labor to supercede Him. He Himself occupies the throne. He rules, but He rules by His word. To this we must submit, with this we must work, and through this establish and extend His kingdom of grace among us. That He alone is the Lord and that He rules through His word, of this we must become ever more deeply conscious, and perform our work accordingly with an ever increasing faithfulness. By the help of His grace to this end will we therefore devote these days of our Synodical convention.

If it is important for each one among us to know that he is a fellow-laborer of God in the great work of redeeming lost souls from eternal ruin, and that the Synod in which many congregations are represented has a high calling in reaching this divinely appointed end, it is equally important to remember that the Lord has not resigned His office, but that His purpose is to remain King in His kingdom. He is gracious enough if He permits us unworthy men to hold the place of servants. Neither are new revelations brought to light by ourselves, so that we are authorized to announce promises and commands in matters concerning which His promises and commands are not otherwise declared. His will is revealed once for all in the Holy Scriptures. We can and dare make use of nothing else than this His word and do nothing else than apply this word. Of ourselves we are weaklings who can do nothing. But His word, which it is our calling to declare, is powerful. Through this word we are made strong. The strength of God is made perfect in weakness.

When we are guided by the word of God, that is, when we permit Him to speak and to reign, we must not permit the charge of pride, bigotry and exclusiveness to trouble us. Such charges are not directed against us, but against our Lord, in whose name we speak and labor; and those who fling them at us may settle the account with Him whose servants we are. We can not help it that God will not give His glory to another, that He binds our conscience by His word, that He saves us by faith alone, and that it is His will that we shall know His disciples by this, that they continue in His word. Neither can we, as His faithful subjects, desire to have it otherwise, for we certainly know that His ways are right, good and salutary.

Were we to plume ourselves with the thought that within the limits of human knowledge we are more learned and skillful than other men, this would indeed be pride on our part. But because the question is not at all concerning our own knowledge and skill in these spiritual things, we can go forward with entire cheerfulness, even though our enemies do reproachfully call us "proud." All such accusations presuppose that we poor human beings are seeking our own glory by reigning and ruling in the kingdom of our Lord as it seemeth good unto ourselves. But inasmuch as by the grace of God we Lutherans are far removed from such usurpation, such a charge could by no means be directed against us. If we were lords in the Church we might very probably be ready to permit the arguments of those who differ from us to induce us to depart from many a demand. But inasmuch as Christ is Lord and His word clear, we can say yea only where He says yea, and we must abide by our nay where nay is

written in His word. This is true humility that we harbor no desire to rule over the Lord's word or to exalt ourselves above the King. If this seems like pride in the eyes of our opposers we can not help it that they lack so greatly in Christian knowledge and that they have so little reverence for the word of the Lord.

The same is also true concerning the charge of narrow-mindedness made so often against us. If we dare not permit ourselves to be led away from the word by our reason, so also we dare not be induced by the feelings of men to depart from it. God is greater than our heart, and it certainly would not be an honor to us if we would permit ourselves to be persuaded to strive for a greater love than that which is itself infinite love. For the disciple can certainly have no desire to be more liberal than the divine Master who has loved us even unto death. Alas, if we would only become ever more and more like unto Him! Imperfect as our love always is, He knows that we love the brethren. But if some do not manifest themselves as brethren, because they do not continue in His word, it is indeed no fault of ours and can not be charged to us as uncharitableness. As liberal as the word is, so liberal we also desire to be. But if this is too contracted for many, the fault is in their own flesh, and not in their faith, and by this fault we can not possibly acknowledge them as brethren. Numerous as our imperfections and failings are, this supposed narrowness is not in our heart, but in the word of the Lord, to which our heart desires to submit. It is this true charity which seems like uncharitableness to a corrupted world.

In regard to tolerance, however, a peculiar state of things prevails. It is difficult for a serious Bible-christian to adopt himself to the modern unionistic theories concerning it. If the question is whether false teachers may be permitted to dwell in our cities and in our country, it certainly would be contrary to the Lord's will if we were to say nay to this and were to sanction the persecution of such pitiable people. But if the question is whether false doctrine, and those who obstinately defend it, shall be tolerated in the church, the answer must be very different. The Lord tolerates no one in His kingdom who will not be submissive unto Him. He tolerates no heresy. Who and what are we that we should presume to change the orders pronounced by our King? Whatever He refuses to tolerate in His kingdom His servant must also refuse to tolerate. Let us not permit ourselves to be frightened into unfaithfulness to our Lord by the unseemly cry of tolerance uttered by those who refuse to have their conscience bound by the divine word, and whose desire is to have all things tolerated in the church excepting a conscientious continuing in His word.

Possibly many Lutheran Christians, especially ministers of the Gospel, might be touched in a more sensitive part, if they were attacked, on account of their conscientious adherence to the word of God and the doctrines of Luther, from another standpoint, as is so often done. Apparently congregations frequently suffer on account of such faithfulness. The increase in the number of members is hindered thereby; indeed on this account many sometimes "go back and walk no more with" the congregation. The attendance at church decreases; a cry is lifted up against the pastor, and his salary can no longer be raised as in former times. The struggle with the cares of this life begins, and his soul is rendered yet more sorrowful by the bitter accusation that by his own fault the congregation is no longer as prosperous as formerly. The cross he is made to bear by such uncharitableness lies heavy upon him — almost crushes some to the earth. But what shall he do? He certainly dare not become unfaithful to the Lord! Certainly no one among us will entertain such a thought. To him who would so incur the eternal curse of God for the sake of freeing himself from a temporal burden, we could only cry out: "thou fool!"

No, dear brethren, to the disciples of Christ other ways are open. They take refuge in the Almighty, merciful God, whose cause it is, submit all to Him, and commend all into His hands. They well know that "He will shape events to a salutary end." They permit Him to care for them as they are enjoined to do: "Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you," 1 Pet. 5, 7; and again: "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4. 6. Let us but be faithful and permit Him to rule and to care for us; He is excellent in working. "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, *who* is the health of my countenance, and my God." Ps. 42, 12.

All our care must be that we hold firmly and steadfastly to the word of God, and that in all things we strive to do His will and to glorify His name, whether for this we be honored or despised of men, whether for this days of prosperity or days of adversity come. The truth is all days we spend with the Lord are days of prosperity, and certainly He is with us always.

Let us therefore begin our synodical labors in the Lord's name, in the glad faith that He will be in our midst and will vouchsafe His blessing.

Besides the matters referred for discussion and the business concerning our institutions to be transacted, as well as the unfinished

business of former sessions, all of which will be submitted at the proper time by those appointed for the purpose, I beg leave to submit several other subjects for consideration.

The first is concerning matters pertaining to congregational schools. It is to be regretted that many of our beloved congregations have not succeeded or desired to establish congregational schools. This is a want which, so far as we are able, we should meet as soon as possible. If it is our aim to train up steadfast Lutheran Christians who will not be tossed about by every wind and wave of doctrine, but who are always ready to give answer to every man that asketh a reason of the hope that is in them, then the true foundation must be laid in youth. Where no congregational schools exist, this in many cases can not be accomplished at all, and in the best cases only in a defective degree. The most needful work for us to do, if we would rightly care for the welfare of our congregations, is to take measures to instruct our children diligently in the word of God, that they may grow up in a true knowledge of the doctrine of salvation. To this end however we must have pious and competent school teachers. That so few of these are at hand is no doubt a chief reason why many congregations have not yet established schools. Our first duty therefore is to discover ways and means by which the needed school teachers are to be procured. Shall we establish a normal school of our own, either separate from, or in connection with, our already existing institution of learning? Or should we, if possible, enter upon an agreement with our sister synod, who has already established such a school, so that we might have school teachers educated there for our congregational schools? That something ought to be done, and that, putting our trust in the Lord, we ought to begin the work without delay, as it is hoped is clear to all.

The second is concerning our English Hymnbook. True, it is unwise to make any unnecessary change of books used in the church. Yet I beg leave to recommend the appointing of a committee, whose business it shall be to prepare a new English Hymnbook to be submitted at our next Synod, unless it should appear that our object could be more readily attained by referring the publication of such a hymnbook to the Synodical Conference. The plates of our present hymnbook are getting old, and by the time a new book could be prepared a new edition of the old hymnbook would occasion nearly the same expense as the publication of a new one. But this is not the chief thing to be considered. Since the preparation of our present book, the amount of material at hand for an English Lutheran hymnbook has been considerably augmented, especially by translations of

many of our well tested church hymns. It would now be possible to secure a collection much more adapted to our wants, inasmuch as it is not to be denied that many of the hymns now in use betray the origin from a non-Lutheran source. Since the hymnbook exerts so great an influence in the congregations, it ought to be our desire to place within their reach the best at our command, and to this end no labor or sacrifice can be too great.

Finally I will once more venture the repetition of a question already submitted several years ago, that is, whether our home mission work might not be made much more efficient if it were carried on under the direction of the Joint Synod, than under that of the several Districts. For some reason or other this so necessary work is not prospering as it should. Some congregations have no interest in it, and even in some Districts almost nothing is done. The cause of this certainly can not be an entire want of love for our scattered brethren in the faith. An entire District perhaps does but very little, because there is no mission within its bounds, and therefore fails to see the burden that rests upon another District. We need a proper organization in which all could cooperate. If the matter of missions were made the business of the Joint Synod, all, it seems to me, would be ready to take part in the work, and besides this the force at our command could be used to better advantage, because no attention would then be paid to the limits of Districts. In my opinion it would not be difficult to direct the work by a commission appointed for this special purpose. It might, at least, be worth while once more to make this a subject of earnest consideration.

As the servants of God, highly favored, unworthy as we truly are, let us do the work unto which we are appointed, in the sure faith that He will bless our deliberations and our acts; for to Him belongs the cause that has brought us together, as the kingdom is His also, and the power and the glory. Amen.

M. Loy, *President.*

Columbus, O., Oct. 20, 1874.

The reading of the President's report was followed by the election of officers, which resulted as follows:

PRESIDENT	<i>Prof. M. Loy.</i>
VICE PRESIDENT	<i>Prof. W. F. Lehmann.</i>
GERMAN REC. SEC. . . .	<i>Pastor H. F. Belser.</i>
ENGLISH "	<i>Pastor H. A. Becker.</i>
CORRESPONDING SEC. . . .	<i>Prof. E. Schmid.</i>
TREASURER	<i>Mr. J. Klingler of Butler, Pa.</i>

Pastor F. A. Herzberger was appointed to act as Chaplain during this Synod.

During the sessions of this Synod the following business was transacted:

I. DOCTRINAL DISCUSSIONS.

Pastor G. F. H. Meiser had, as instructed by Synod, prepared eight Theses on Exchange of Pulpits. Four of these theses were adopted in the form in which they are herein given, together with the added explanations.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

The subject of the following theses is not that right and proper exchange of pulpits which is practiced when orthodox pastors admit each other into their pulpits,—and in a general way support each other in the administration of their office,—but that false exchange of pulpits which, alas! has become so prevalent, not only among the sects, but is also practiced and tolerated by ecclesiastical organizations in our land, who call themselves Lutheran.

These theses however are not submitted for discussion in our Synod, because among us false doctrine or practice in regard to this point prevails, against which we must wage a warfare, but much more, in the first place, to bear testimony against this ruinous disorder, and then also that we ourselves and our congregations may become more and more firmly established in the truth and in a proper conduct concerning this matter.

THESIS 1.

By Exchange of Pulpits, of which we treat in this connection, we mean the practice now prevailing in many ecclesiastical organizations, by which ministers who are not united in doctrine and practice, participate with each other in the administration of the ministerial office.

By this thesis we desire to state that in speaking of exchange of pulpits we do not refer only to the practice by which a pastor opens his pulpit to one who differs from him in the faith, or in union with such a person conducts divine service; but by the word "pulpit" we refer more especially to any locality where the functions of the holy office of the ministry are performed; and whenever any orthodox preacher upon any occasion performs the functions of his office in union with one who is not orthodox (even though he should call himself Lutheran) we reject such an act as a false exchange of pulpits,—as, for example, in cases of funeral occasions, or Sunday school festivals, or

corner-stone layings, or the consecration of churches,—or also when an orthodox pastor or congregation on such occasions permits one who is not orthodox to act for himself or for its members.

THESIS 2.

Whether a Lutheran Pastor or a Lutheran Congregation may participate in such a practice, or whether they must reject the same, depends upon the question whether or not it is in accordance with the Word of God and the Confessions of the Ev. Luth. Church derived from this Word.

Here attention is called only to that which must direct and decide us in the acceptance or rejection of any ecclesiastical practice whatsoever,—that is, to nothing more nor less than the infallible word of God and the Confessions of our Church founded upon the same. For this is a feature by which our church is distinguished from all other ecclesiastical bodies, that she accepts the word of God as the only rule of faith and practice,—not only with the lips, but in deed and in truth. If therefore a question arises among us concerning the acceptance of any ecclesiastical practice, we do not ask whether or not others have accepted it, or whether it has become generally prevalent, or is acceptable to the masses; but with us the only question is whether or not it is approved of God in His sacred word. Whatever *His* word approves we approve also and do it; but whatever *His* word rejects we reject also, though all the world should do otherwise. By this principle, and by this alone, we will permit ourselves to be led in the question before us now, concerning exchange of pulpits.

If however besides the word we also refer to the confessions of the Lutheran Church, this is not done with the intention of setting up another rule at the side of the Holy Scriptures; but it is done only in the sense in which our church in any event accepts her confessions, viz. as a faithful and true testimony for the divine word.

THESIS 3.

Exchange of pulpits is contrary to God's word, for in His word God commands constant adherence to the word in all respects, as well as the rejection of all that is not in consonance with this word, and the avoidance of all those who teach doctrines that conflict with this word.

This thesis is designed to show that exchange of pulpits as defined in the first thesis truly conflicts with God's word, first, because God in His word commands that we shall faithfully cling to His word in all respects, and second because it demands that we shall reject all things that are contrary to the same, and that we avoid all those who teach false doctrine.

The word and sacraments are exalted gifts of God's grace, with which the precious merits of Christ are connected, and through which these merits are offered to us poor sinners. There is no other salvation than that purchased for us by Christ Jesus and given unto us through these means of grace. It is therefore absolutely necessary for us to preserve in their purity and fullness these means of grace which the Lord has intrusted to us for our salvation. We must hold fast not only the chief articles of Christian doctrine, but also every title of Holy Writ; for *all* Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, etc. 2 Tim. 3, 16. God's word is not only contained in the Scriptures, but the Scriptures *are* God's word, and will so continue in all eternity. If therefore but one word be questioned or held doubtful the security of our foundation is thereby shaken and all true comfort taken away. For this reason too the Lord warns His people, that they shall not add to or diminish from the word which He commands them. Deut. 4, 2. Compare also Matt. 5, 18. 19; John 8, 31. 32, and Gal. 1, 8. 9.

On this point Luther in his commentary on Gal. 5, 9. says: "If a small particle of dust lodges in the eye it can not be endured nor permitted to remain, lest it cause injury. Therefore it is a saying among us Germans when we speak of medicines for the eye, that within the eye nothing is pleasant; and Jesus says, Matt. 6, 22 and Luke 11, 34: The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single thy whole body also is full of light, etc., and again, verse 36, If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light. By this parable Jesus shows that the eye, that is, the doctrine, must be perfectly clear and pure, so that no part of darkness nor even the semblance of a cloud can be detected. In regard to this also the word of St. James in the second chapter and tenth verse of his epistle is very clear and distinct, that whosoever shall offend in *one* point is guilty of all! Therefore the doctrine must be like a ring of fine gold, in which no crevice nor fracture can be found; for whenever such a ring of fine gold contains either fracture or crevice it is no longer perfect.....For this reason those fanatics, who are so very easy and indifferent about this matter, thereby sufficiently indicate to us what they really think of the majesty of the divine word. If it were true that they sincerely believe it to be God's word, they would not so recklessly play with it as with a toy, but they would hold it in the highest reverence; and they would likewise know that *one* word of God is *all* and that *all* God's word is *one*, and that a willingness to surrender one only requires time to grow into a willingness to surrender all."

How then can any Lutheran, who does not despise the word of God, practice exchange of pulpits with preachers who, e. g., deny that a man is justified by grace alone, who confound, to the hurt of many souls, the doctrines of justification and sanctification, of the law and the Gospel, who will not admit that the sacraments are means of grace, and set aside entirely the efficiency of God's word? By such a sinful practice he would only show that he has no regard for the word of God, and he would confirm the soul-destroying folly that the doctrine is a matter of no import, and that at last all doctrines, though by different roads, lead all those whose intentions are good into *one* heaven.

But a Lutheran pastor must not only teach no false doctrine, nor only see that it be not taught in his congregation, but God's word also demands of him that he reject false doctrine and that he avoid false teachers.

It has always been the devil's design to corrupt the word of God and to make it set forth his own lies. He did this in Paradise; he did this through false prophets in the old covenant, and he does this through false apostles and brethren in the new covenant, who by the semblance of truth betray large multitudes, whom Christ has dearly purchased, into the jaws of hell. How shall a pastor protect from such destruction the souls entrusted to him? Must he be a dumb dog, timorous and selfish, and quietly looking on while soul after soul is made Satan's prey? Or must he by exchange of pulpits make common cause with those who corrupt the Gospel, and so by his own example mislead the flock in his care? Most certainly not! Rather let him do what God commands in His word: Tit. 1, 9-10. "A bishop must hold fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able..... to convince gain-sayers. For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers.....whose mouths must be stopped;" and Jude 3, "contend for the faith which was once delivered to the Saints;" and Matt. 16, 6. "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees;" and Acts 20, 28-31 "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock,.....for I know this, that after my departing grievous wolves shall enter in among you," and again, 1 John 4, 1. "Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God."

Luther also writes on this subject to Dr. Major: "He who regards his own doctrine, faith and confession as true, right and certain, can not stand in the same stall with others who teach false doctrine, or approve the same, nor can he always have a good word for the devil and his gang. That teacher who remains silent when and where error is found, and yet claims to be a true teacher, is worse than an

avowed fanatic, and does more harm by his hypocrisy than a heretic, and he can not be trusted; he is a wolf, a fox, a hireling and worshiper of self; he has either formed a secret alliance with the enemy, or he is a doubter, tossed by the wind, whose aim it is to see which way the wind is going to blow, whether Christ or the devil will win; and he is not worthy to be called a learner, much less a teacher."

Therefore, according to the plain word of God and Luther's advice founded upon this word, it is the duty of Christ's servant not to meet false doctrine with silence, but rather to reprove and to warn against it publicly and in private.

Finally, by the avoidance of those who teach false doctrine we do not mean a *civil*, but an *ecclesiastical* avoidance, just as in the passage of 2 John 1, 10-11. the Apostle does not refer to a civil greeting, but to that greeting which takes place among brethren in the faith. Neither do we design to teach here that we dare not in any sense approach such as believe errors for the sake of leading them to a knowledge of the truth, or that any attempt on their part to approach us must be unconditionally repelled. But we do maintain that a Lutheran can not hold *ecclesiastical* fellowship with those who believe or teach false doctrine, as long as they continue in their error. Such avoidance is clearly taught in God's word. Matt. 7, 15: "Beware of false prophets;" Rom. 16, 17: "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and *avoid* them." 1 Tim. 6, 3-5: "From such *withdraw* thyself." Titus 3, 10: "A man that is a heretic . . . *reject*." Jer. 15, 19: "If thou *take forth* the *precious* from the *vile*, thou shalt be as my mouth; let *them* return unto *thee*, but return not *thou* unto *them*." 2 John 10, 11: "If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, *receive him not into your house*."

If, however, a case should occur, in which by the providence of God a Lutheran should be constrained to officiate, e. g. at a funeral, at the same place with one who believes error, he should very prudently guard against an apparent or seeming agreement in doctrine with the errorist.

In this connection may also be mentioned the shameful custom of Lutheran parents, who permit their children to attend sectarian schools, or who even send them to such schools, and so neglect the sacred duty of the parent to his child. No pastor or congregation should permit such things, but should rather make every effort to prevent this disorder.

4. THESIS.

Exchange of pulpits also militates against the confession of the Evang. Lutheran Church as derived from the word of God, which confession obligates every pastor and every Lutheran congregation to bear testimony to the whole truth, and in every case to reject the opposite doctrine.

By his ordination every Lutheran pastor obligates himself to teach the word of God and to administer the sacraments in accordance with the confessions of the Evang. Lutheran Church, and neither to sanction or to tolerate any doctrines militating against these confessions, but to oppose the same. He therefore who practices exchange of pulpits violates his oath and sins against God, who has given and committed the truth unto him, against his church, which has made him a watchman for the truth, and against his congregation, which has made him a preacher of the pure doctrine. So also a Lutheran congregation sins against God and its confession, if it permits pastors who have become unfaithful to their confession to go unrebuked and suffers them to continue in its midst; also if it permits a preacher who is an errorist to occupy its pulpit, or perhaps even calls an errorist to become its pastor, or if it permits one of its members to procure the services of an errorist on the occasion of a funeral, wedding, or the like.

The Apology says, Art. 4, that false teachers must not be accepted or heard, for they are no longer the ministers of God but of Antichrist.

So the 10. Article of the Formula of Concord also plainly teaches, that ecclesiastical fellowship can be established only there where true unity in the pure doctrine exists.

Those therefore who know this and have even obligated themselves to the symbols, and yet act against them, are guilty of perjury—they have belied God and men.

Here however the question might arise, whether it is likewise wrong to attend service in the churches of errorists, or to hear the sermon of an errorist. Though the word of God contains no direct answer to this question, it certainly does forbid ecclesiastical fellowship with errorists, and we must therefore avoid all things that might become dangerous to our souls, and also all things that have the appearance of evil. Though therefore it is not forbidden in every case to attend the services of errorists, such attendance can only take place without sin where the dangers alluded to are not to be feared. We pray: "Lead us not into temptation." But what agreement has our conduct with this petition if we needlessly expose ourselves to temptation? To seek temptation is to perish therein! At least this much is

certain, that it is sin to attend the service of errorists for the purpose of finding instruction or comfort there, or for the sake of partaking of the Lord's Supper.

The same is also true of the reading of books and periodicals, by means of which the sects disseminate their false doctrines; and it is therefore not only exceedingly unwise, but also highly censurable if Lutherans regularly receive and read such literature.

But how must we stand in regard to the General Council, and the Synods in its connection, which accept the confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? To this we reply: Although the General Council accepts our confession, we can not look upon it as a Lutheran body, because within its bounds unlutheran doctrine and practice are permitted to exist unrebuked. Therefore what has been said concerning a participation in the divine service of the sects and the reading of their publications, applies also to the unlutheran elements in the General Council. But with those brethren in the Council, who are one with us in the faith, and who faithfully bear testimony against the false position of the Council, we may have ecclesiastical fellowship without violating our faithfulness to our confession.

Finally attention is called to the testimony of our Church as set forth in the Smalcald Articles, (pp. 336, Mueller's edition): "For this reason all Christians should exercise the most diligent care not to participate in such ungodly doctrine, blasphemy and unbecoming fanaticism, but must avoid the pope and his members or adherents, as they would avoid the kingdom of Antichrist, and execrate it, as Christ has commanded, Matt. 7, 15: 'Beware of false prophets;' and as Paul enjoins, Tit. 3, 10, that false preachers must be avoided and execrated as an abomination. And in 2 Cor. 6, 14. he says: 'Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what communion hath light with darkness?'—It is a difficult task to stand separate from so many people, and to hold a separate and peculiar doctrine; but in this case the command of God applies, that all men must beware lest they agree with those who teach false doctrine, or who expect to uphold it by their rage and fanaticism."

II. CONSTITUTION OF JOINT SYNOD.

At the convention of the Joint Synod at Bucyrus, O., A. D. 1872, a committee was appointed for the purpose of revising its constitution, or, if deemed necessary, to prepare a new constitution to be submitted to this body. This committee decided upon the latter course and ac-

cordingly submitted a new constitution. But inasmuch as the Synod was occupied with other business to such an extent that no time remained to submit this new constitution to a thorough examination, it was resolved to furnish the committee with instructions as follows: First, the constitution as submitted shall be printed in German and English. Second, each Pastor shall be supplied by mail with one or more copies, so that pastors and congregations may have opportunity to examine the same. Third, at the next regular session of the Joint Synod a final decision is to be made.

III. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES,

TOGETHER WITH APPENDED TRANSACTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS.

REPORT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE.

The document placed into the hands of your committee is the report of our worthy President. On this your Committee begs leave to report as follows:

1.) Inasmuch as the part of the report referring to the education of school teachers has already been acted upon, your committee has nothing farther to suggest on that subject.

2.) Your committee recognized the necessity of publishing a new English Hymnbook, and therefore moves that a committee be appointed to prepare a proof-copy, to be submitted to Synod at its next convention, and that, *as a rule*, none but hymns of an orthodox authorship shall be admitted.

3.) Touching the work of Home Missions, your committee is convinced that it deserves our most earnest consideration, and that to carry on this work successfully a committee on missions should be appointed. But since this subject has already been referred to another committee, we move that the report of said committee be now called for.

4.) Finally your committee moves that the report of our worthy President be published in the minutes of this Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

G. F. H. MEISER, G. CRONENWETT,
F. GROTH, F. ZUR MUEHLEN,
C. H. L. SCHUETTE, GEO. ALBERT,
G. LEMMLE.

This report was adopted. In regard to item 2 it was

Resolved, 1. That the committee to prepare a proof-copy of an English Hymn-book shall consist of Prof. M. Loy, Prof. C. H. L. Schuette, Pastor E. Cronenwett, Pastor H. A. Becker, Pastor W. C. H. Luebker, and Prof. J. H. Spielmann.

2. The proof-copy shall be printed, and in the same suitable melodies shall be suggested. The expense of printing is to be met by the publication treasury.

The mission committee, referred to in item 3, was not prepared to report, and a report submitted at a later session was referred for consideration to the next convention of Synod.

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE.

To this committee several catechisms were submitted for examination. Instead of the suggestions proposed by the committee it was resolved to refer the matter concerning catechisms to the Synodical Conference.

REPORT OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE.

Your committee has in hand the proceedings of the Joint Synod of 1872, of the Eastern District of 1873-4, of the Southern District of 1874, and of the English District of 1872-3.

Concerning these proceedings your committee respectfully submits the following:

1. *Proceedings of the Joint Synod of 1872*, page 11, the mode of election of delegates to the Synodical Conference is established.

Your committee moves that this order be observed until changed.

Page 14: The regulation is found, that at each session of the Joint Synod the Pastors be requested to state the yearly contributions of their congregations, as well as their own, for the Institution Treasury.

Your committee moves that this order be set aside, and that each Pastor, without pledging himself, do what he can.

Page 20: It found the appointment of an Orphan's Home committee, consisting of Pastors Lang, R. Herbst, Loewenstein, Luebker and H. A. Becker.

Your committee moves that this committee report at once.

Page 20: Is found that further time be given the Inventory committee to report.

Your committee moves that the Synod now hear the report of the above named committee.

Page 23: Is found the following resolution. "Resolved: to instruct the committee in charge of the Pastor's Widows and Orphans Treasury to submit to the next Joint Synod a plan for the better regulation of this matter, and to report the same to the President at a date sufficiently early to enable him to make reference thereto in his report."

Inasmuch as no mention of this is made in the President's report, your committee moves that the managing committee now report.

Page 25: A resolution requiring Pastor Reichert to furnish a history of the Joint Synod, and to report at this convention.

Your committee moves that this report be made now.

2. *Proceedings of the Western District, 1873.* Page 12: This District calls attention to liturgical matters.

Your committee moves that five pastors be now appointed, either to furnish a revision of our present liturgy, or an entirely new one, and to report at the next Synod.

3. *Proceedings of the Southern District, 1874.* Page 13: Joint Synod is requested to provide certificates of ordination for the use of all the Districts. Your committee moves that a committee of three be appointed to meet the above named request, and that these certificates shall be printed in German and English.

4. *Proceedings of the English District, 1873.* Page 16: This District expressed the wish that the "Church Building Fund" established by her be adopted by the Joint Synod as her own.

Your committee moves that further explanations concerning this matter be submitted.

In the remaining proceedings handed to your committee nothing is found referring to this body, that has not been noticed elsewhere.

W. C. H. LUEBKERT, M. H. HOCKMAN,
J. F. ISENSEE, J. KLINGLER,
J. A. SCHUETZ.

This report was adopted. In accordance therewith the committee on Orphan's Home submitted a report to the effect that a suitable location for such a Home has not yet been secured, upon which it was

Resolved, That the committee shall continue to make efforts in this direction.

The committee consists of Pastors H. Lang, R. Herbst, W. C. H. Luebkert, G. Löwenstein, H. A. Becker.

The Inventory Committee was discharged for the present.

The committee in charge of the Pastors' Widows and Orphans Treasury reported that this matter is regulated in the new constitution, and therefore no special plan was submitted. Therefore it was

Resolved, To maintain the existing arrangement for the present.

Pastor H. F. Belser was re-elected a member of this committee, to serve during six years.

Pastor Reichert informed the Synod that for want of time he has not been able to complete the history of our Synod, but that he is willing to continue his efforts and to publish results in consecutive

numbers of the *Kirchenzeitung*. He was requested to act in accordance with this statement.

Instead of the item referring to the revision or preparation of a liturgy, it was

Resolved, To refer this matter, as well as the publication of an English liturgy, to the Synodical Conference.

In regard to a request of the Western District, (1874), concerning the dismission of congregations from the German Districts to the English, and vice versa, and also concerning the dissolution of the English District, it was

Resolved, To refer this matter to a committee, with instructions to report at the next Synod.

This committee consists of Prof. M. Loy, Prof. W. F. Lehmann, F. Groth, E. Cronenwett, and G. F. H. Meiser.

The "Church Building Fund" matter was referred to the next Synod.

REPORT OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE.

Your committee has in hand 23 letters, 21 of which contain excuses, 3 from congregations and 18 from Pastors. Only 2 are of different import:

1. Concerning these two last mentioned letters your committee has nothing to suggest, inasmuch as they proceed from a former member of the Eastern District Synod and urge a matter concerning which, in our opinion, final action has been taken by said Synod.

2. Concerning the three congregations in Hopewell, Mercer Co., O., Ironton, O., and Meadville, Pa., requesting to be excused for not sending delegates to this Synod, your committee moves that their request be granted.

3. In regard to the 18 Pastors who send in excuses for absence, your committee moves that the following be excused *unconditionally*: Pastors Høerr, Willert, C. Mayer, J. J. Meiszner, Yung, Simon, Reitz, Volz, Wilhelm, Tressel, Brown and Warns;—but Pastors Jæger, Martens, Schillinger, J. M. Meiszner, Lilje and Mahlberg only with the admonition that hereafter they should not permit a long journey, or expense, or unavoidable official duties, or temporal matters to prevent their presence at Synod.

Finally, we remark that Pastor Wilhelm requests us to assist his congregation and refers us to Pastor Herzberger for farther information, and that Pastor Høerr invites the Joint Synod to hold its next convention at Baltimore, Md.

Your committee recommends that both items be taken into consideration.

Respectfully,

H. LANG, C. G. REICHERT,
GOTTL. KRIMMER.

This report was adopted. In addition to item 3 it was

Resolved, That those Pastors whose absence has been excused by the Northern and English Districts shall also stand excused by the Joint Synod.

And in addition to item 2 it was

Resolved, That all congregations who have sent no delegates and have also requested no excuse, are herewith earnestly reminded of their duty.

Hereupon Pastor Herzberger gave an account of the straitened condition of Pastor Wilhelm's congregation at Greenock, Pa., the members of which are now in great need, and that their church property is in danger of being lost,—all because they are thrown out of employment. It was therefore

Resolved, That this Synod has heard with grief of the sad condition of this congregation, and that it shall not be forgotten in their prayers and offerings. (Collections to be sent to Pastor Herzberger.)

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE.

Your committee, who has in hands the report of the Treasurer, Pastor J. A. Schulze, has carefully compared the same with the books and receipts at hand, and has found it correct. We move that this report be printed with the minutes.

From this report your committee learns that the *Kirchenzeitung* has 2568 subscribers, and that this shows an increase of 426 since the last convention of Joint Synod; and inasmuch as we have learned that no other committee has the *Kirchenzeitung* matter in hand, we deem it expedient to offer the following propositions:

1. Your committee recommends that the present editing committee be continued.

2. Since in view of the numerical strength of our Synod the number of subscribers to the *Kirchenzeitung* ought to be at least 5000, be it therefore

Resolved, That each pastor is herewith requested to make an earnest effort to secure new subscribers.

3. As the increase in the number of subscribers likewise increases the labor of our agent, be it therefore

Resolved, That his salary be increased to \$200.

Finally we also learn from the Treasurer's Report, that funds for our Orphan's Home matter have been received and are now in his

hands; but because the Synod thus far has made no provision in regard to this, we suggest that the Treasurer of the Institution be instructed to receive these funds and hold them until farther action shall have been taken.

In conclusion we call the attention of Synod to the fact that a treasurer of the Institution Treasury and a book agent are to be elected at this Synod.

Respectfully,

J. F. N. WOLF, E. A. BÖHME,
J. BECK, O. VON ZECH,
C. F. THEISZ, J. VEIT.

This report was adopted, and concerning the Kirchenzeitung the additional resolution was passed, that hereafter the advertisement on the last page shall appear but four times per annum.

As Treasurer of the Institution Treasury and book agent Pastor J. A. Schulze was re-elected.

REPORT CONCERNING THE INSTITUTION TREASURY, FUNDS FOR THE KIRCHENZEITUNG AND BOOKS OF SYNOD.

I. The Institution Treasury.

Balance in Treasury at last settlement and income since that time	\$18,007 02
Disbursements	17,641 98
Balance in Treasury	\$365 04

II. Treasury of the Kirchenzeitung.

Balance and income	\$5,995 97
Disbursements	5,854 98
Balance in Treasury	140 99

III. Treasury of Books of Synod.

Balance and income	\$5,337 85
Disbursements	4,705 81
Balance in Treasury	632 04
In hand for Orphan's Home	291 08

J. A. SCHULZE, *Treasurer.*

REPORT OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE.

Your committee has in hand the following:

1. The report, together with accounts, receipts and letters of the Missionary Treasurer.
2. The accounts of the Treasurer of the Pastors' Widows and Orphans Treasury.
3. The report of the Treasurer of Joint Synod.

Your committee submits the following:

1. The Treasurer of the Pastor's Widows and Orphans Treasury has handed in no report, and we therefore move that this be done.

2. The accounts of the three Treasurers were carefully examined and found correct.

3. Your committee calls attention to the deficit in the Treasury of Joint Synod, and also to the motion of the Treasurer, that the debt shall be apportioned among the Districts. The debt was occasioned by the publication of the minutes of the Synodical Conference, and amounts to \$48.49.

4. Your committee acknowledges the industry and care with which the accounts of the several treasures have been kept, and moves the re-election of Pastor Groth as Treasurer of the Missionary Treasury and Pastor Meiser as Treasurer of the Pastor's Widows and Orphans Treasury.

Finally your committee moves that the reports of the several Treasurers shall be published with our minutes.

Respectfully,

S. BÄCHLER, J. HUMBERGER,
J. DORNBIRER, J. H. SPIELMANN,
J. HARTER.

This report was adopted, and accordingly the reports of the several Treasurers are here given.

1. REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY TREASURER.

A. Income.

Amount in Treasury at last settlement, Bucyrus, O., May 23, 1872	\$140 62
Received since	2,288 42
For Emigrant Missions.....	26 93
Total	\$2,455 97

B. Disbursements.

Remitted to Pastor Th. Harms since October 1872 for the Hermannsburg Mission.....	\$1,840 00
Remitted to Director J. Hardeband in 1873-4 for the Leipzig Mission.....	163 00
For travelling expenses and in part supporting the students and missionaries of Hermannsburg since the last settlement	278 90
To Pastor S. Keil for Emigrant Missions	26 93
For money orders, postage etc.....	3 64
Total Disbursements	\$2,312 47
Amount in Treasury	\$143 50

F. GROTH, Treasurer.

2. REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE PASTOR'S WIDOWS AND ORPHANS TREASURY.

1. Amount in Treasury at the Bucyrus Synod, 1872	\$244 47
2. Income up to October, 1874	1,415 26
Total.....	\$1,659 73
3. Disbursements up to October, 1874.....	\$1,092 00
Amount in Treasury	\$567 73

G. F. H. MEISER, *Treasurer.*

3. REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF JOINT SYNOD.

Received of the Eastern District.....	\$63 00
" " Northern " 	72 00
" " Southern " 	33 50
" " Western " 	61 00
" " English " 	43 00
Total.....	\$272 50
Paid Rev. J. A. Schulze.....	\$188 64
Also	35 00
To the Seminary Treasury.....	48 86
	\$272 50

Inasmuch as the publication of the Synodical Conference minutes has occasioned a debt which must be met, the former debt was only paid in part. The Treasury is still indebted

To the Seminary Treasury.....	\$22 49
To the Publication Treasury.....	24 50
To Pastor J. A. Schulze	1 70
Total.....	\$48 69

F. R. GUTHKE, *Treasurer.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CINCINNATI CONGREGATION.

Your committee, after a mature consideration of the condition of the Ev. Luth. St. Stephens Congregation of Cincinnati, as the same has been represented to us by its delegate and is also known to us from other sources, has concluded to offer the following propositions:

Resolved, That under existing circumstances it is no longer expedient for us to support the St. Stephens Congregation by additional pecuniary aid,

And also,

Resolved, That we advise the sale of the Church property of the St. Stephens Congregation, and that we recommend that the congregation either establish a place

of worship in another portion of the city, or connect itself with the congregation in connection with the Synod of Missouri.

Respectfully,

G. LÖWENSTEIN, J. A. SCHULZE,
F. GROTH, W. F. LEHMANN,
E. CRONENWETT, F. A. HERZBERGER.

REPORT ON OUR INSTITUTIONS AT COLUMBUS, O.

The report submitted to your committee and containing a statement of the condition of our Institutions at Columbus deserves special consideration on the part of this Synod. The following points are especially worthy of our attention, and in regard to these your committee begs leave to submit some observations.

1. The fact stated in the report, that 45 beneficiaries are at present receiving the support of the church, affords an occasion for rejoicing as to the number of our pupils, inasmuch as it is the duty of the church to support gifted young men who are in indigent circumstances. Yet we take the liberty to observe that in the reception of beneficiaries great care should be exercised, not only by way of considering their worth and talents, but also by way of obtaining previous satisfactory information in regard to their ability to support themselves, or to obtain the means of support from their own relatives or friends.

2. Concerning the present arrangement in regard to the resident professor the proposition of your committee is that it remain in force for the present.

3. Your committee rejoices to learn that more instruction in the German language has been introduced into the course of the Institution, and also that thorough instruction in the catechism is imparted.

4. Inasmuch as it is of the highest importance that in the Grammar School instruction be imparted in both languages, and that therefore a teacher is needed who is competent to do this, your committee moves that the Board of Trustees shall be empowered to take the necessary steps toward the attainment of this end.

In addition to this your committee moves that another professor be appointed as soon as possible.

5. We recommend that the proposition of the President of the Institution, concerning literary societies, according to which but *one* German and *one* English society shall exist in the Institution, and to be a member of *both* shall be made the duty of every student, be approved by the Synod.

6. In regard to the Building Fund we take the liberty to propose, that a sum of money, say from 15 to 20 Thousand Dollars, be obtained

within the bounds of Synod on loan, if possible without interest, and that notes made payable three years after date and signed by the Trustees of the Institution be issued.

7. Inasmuch as the time of service of some of the members of the Board has expired, we move that an election of new members take place now.

8. The Treasurer's report in the hands of your committee have been examined and found correct. Concerning the arrangement by which the business of the various treasuries is transacted, we have no proposition to submit, inasmuch as we expect this matter to be disposed of in the new constitution.

9. We are constrained to acknowledge with gratitude to God, that thus far our work in the church through our Institutions at Columbus has been crowned with blessings, and that therefore we have abundant reason to move onward with cheerfulness and love, with zeal and faithfulness in this work of the Lord.

Respectfully,

S. BAECHLER, R. HERBST,
H. LANG, G. LOEWENSTEIN,
W. A. BOWMAN.

Upon the adoption of this report new members of the Board of Trustees were elected as follows: Pastors H. A. Becker and G. Loewenstein and the brethren Dapper of Leesville, Crawford Co., O., and F. Rose of Richmond, Ind.

REPORT ON OUR INSTITUTIONS AT COLUMBUS.

The propriety of submitting a report on our Institutions at Columbus at every convention of the Synod, whose foster-children they are, is self-evident. On the part of the proper authority the undersigned has been instructed to furnish such a report, and he herewith makes an effort to act in consonance with this instruction.

Since our last report some changes have been effected, it is hoped for the better. In regard to the true condition of the Institutions the following perhaps deserves prominence.

In the aggregate the usual state of things prevails, so that the necessity of observing anything extraordinary in their experience, their control and their prosperity does not exist; and yet the circumstances to which attention is herein called are not unimportant.

The average number of students has been the same as in years past, and at present reaches about 70; of these some 20 are in the Grammar School, 24 in the College and 23 in the Seminary. No less than 45 are Beneficiaries, and this fact is a vigorous warning in favor

of renewed zeal in the work of providing the Treasury of the Institution with the means needed to meet increased expenditures.

Inasmuch as during quite a length of time sickness prevented Prof. Dasher from attending to his duties, it became necessary to appoint several of the more advanced students to take his place. After his health was restored this arrangement was set aside, and he has since resumed his accustomed labors.

Several earnest efforts to increase our facilities by the appointment of an additional Professor have failed, until finally a call was extended to Pastor C. H. L. Schuette as Professor of Mathematics, which he accepted and upon the duties of which he entered in the Spring of 1873. The effort to secure a suitable resident Professor, who might take charge of several subjects of instruction in the course, has also been without success. Prof. Schuette was therefore temporarily appointed to supply the office of resident Professor, and still serves in this capacity, but with the special understanding that this arrangement is only temporary.

The resignation offered by Pastor G. Baughman as a member of the Board of Trustees was accepted, and Pastor G. Löwenstein was elected in his stead. Brother John Gruebler of Columbus has likewise resigned in June 1874, upon which Brother F. Beck, also of Columbus, was elected in his stead.

In accordance with the wish expressed by the Synod, the course of instruction in the College has been changed, to the effect that more time is now devoted to the German language and instruction in the catechism for the benefit of classes in the Grammar School and College, and for the purpose of fitting our Institutions more and more for the attainment of their main object—to build up the church. These changes are set forth more fully in the catalogue which is regularly sent to all the members of Synod.

What has been done concerning the demands made upon students who apply for admission has been stated in our church papers and can yet be learned from them. The mathematical and several other parts of the course have been so arranged as to make it possible temporarily to continue the work of the Institutions without appointing an additional Professor. Whether it is deemed feasible by the Synod to undertake the appointment of an additional Professor for service in the College and Seminary, is a question not superfluous at this convention and needing earnest consideration and decisive action.

At the beginning of the present year the state of health at the Institution was far from desirable. One of our students, John, son of Pastor F. Groth, was called away by death; others were invalids dur-

ing quite a length of time. At the approach of Spring this state of things was improved to an encouraging degree, and by the grace of God has now become entirely changed. The health of our students has since been very good. May the Lord protect teachers and pupils!

Respecting the existence hitherto of two English literary societies in the Institution, it was deemed best on the part of the Faculty to take initiatory steps toward their consolidation, for the purpose of avoiding evils of various kinds that might easily arise. This recommendation of the Faculty, to confine students to two societies of this kind, the one German and the other English, and to require each student to become a member of both, has been approved by the Board of Trustees, and will be carried into effect, provided the approval of Synod is likewise obtained. At all events it might not be amiss for the Synod to express its preference regarding this point.

Concerning the existing condition of our several treasuries attention is called to the fact, that they are all nearly exhausted. A more specific statement of the condition of the Institution Treasury, the University Treasury and the Building Fund, as they are called, is contained in the respective reports herewith submitted. That help is needed at an early date is clearly shown by these reports; how this help can and will be supplied, is a question which the Synod is earnestly requested to solve.

In regard to the new building the authorities of the Institution have made it their aim as far as possible to carry into effect the wishes of Synod, in so far as these have been expressed. The old property has been surveyed, and offered for sale some time past; but on account of the exceedingly unfavorable circumstances existing during the past few years, the sale of but *one* lot has been effected, although the prospect of additional sales has improved within the immediate past.

But that the progress of the new building might not be arrested, the building committee has found it necessary to secure a loan of \$6000 on terms that are favorable, and that do not include any special risk. Unexpected and in some respects unavoidable obstacles have hindered the progress of the enterprise to such an extent, that at present nothing more is to be reported, than that the foundation and the wood work for the first story have been completed, and that contracts for the stone, brick and carpenter work have been effected. The boarding house, which is to be erected separately in the rear of the main building, and the erection of which will require only a short time, will be begun later, together with the other buildings under contemplation. For the present the prospect is, that before the beginning of Winter no more than the first story will be completed, and at best, and that

only in case of the most favorable weather, the building may be placed under roof. The undersigned has in his possession the minutes of the college-faculty, and also those of the building committee; from these minutes farther information may be obtained.

For the election of those members of the college and seminary Board, whose term of service will shortly expire, arrangements must be made at this convention. The respective secretaries will impart the needed information for this purpose.

Since the middle of August, 1832, when the corner-stone of the old Theological Seminary at Columbus was laid, the experience with which our beloved Institution has met and the changes it has endured have been varied and numerous, it is hoped for the better. From exceedingly small beginnings, with one solitary teacher, and a half dozen students, who, besides the theological instruction with which they were provided, and which, alas! was influenced more or less by the prevailing spirit of the time, received nothing more than the most necessary literary instruction, our Institutions have advanced to a position, which, though even yet leaving much to be desired, still responds in a modest way to our ecclesiastical wants, and forms a foundation on which we can continue to build with gladness. It is only necessary now to carry forward, to expand and rightly to improve the advantages already gained, in order by the grace of God to realize for the church the blessing for which we are striving.

In the providence of God the success of the work committed to us depends upon our faithfulness. From the most insignificant beginnings the Lord can bring forth great things. He will do this for us also if we use with faithfulness the talent entrusted to us. If He permits us to succeed in possessing our new home, we will with renewed zeal and ever increasing faithfulness improve the opportunity offered unto us, in order to accomplish the great task unto which we are appointed; and it shall be our aim to improve constantly upon the things of the past, so that the spirit and faith of our fathers shall permeate us more and more, and that the work of our Institution shall have no other object than to serve the Lord and the church.—May God in mercy and grace grant this, Amen!

W. F. LEHMANN.

REPORT ON CAPITAL UNIVERSITY TREASURY.

At the settlement with the Board of Trustees, Dec. 17, 1873, there appeared an income of \$2580.43, and a disbursement of \$2487.66, leaving a balance of \$92.77.

Income since Dec. 15, 1873, inclusive of balance	\$525 52
Disbursement	432 07
Balance in Treasury	\$93 45

Concerning this Treasury the undersigned takes the liberty to remark, that inasmuch as the Synod at Bucyrus has decided that the income shall hereafter flow into the Treasury of the Institution, the former really performs no important functions; perhaps the most important reasons why it should continue to exist are some very special objects to be met, and certain legal considerations.

Its liabilities at present are, for the laying of a brick pavement on the West side of the lot occupied by the College building, some \$50.00. As soon as the small balance remaining in the Treasury shall have been exhausted, current expenses for fuel and other things in the building must be defrayed by drawing upon the Institution Treasury.

The only claim yet to be collected is the loan to the Stephens Congregation at Cincinnati, which, together with interest accrued, amounts to some \$2400.00, a sum which may become largely reduced by costs for collecting.

W. F. LEHMANN, *Treasurer.*

REPORT ON THE BUILDING FUND AND KINDRED MATTERS.

The undersigned has the honor of submitting the following proposition in reference to this Treasury:

Appointed by the building committee, as Treasurer of Capital University, to take charge of funds for the erection of the new building, he has thus far received and disbursed these funds for the purpose indicated. From receipts herewith submitted, and the Treasurer's book the following statement is gathered:

The entire income since Sept. 11, 1873, inclusive of the	
\$6000 loaned	\$9455 25
The entire amount disbursed up to date	3614 31
Amount remaining in the Treasury	\$5840 94

The contracts effected for the building, from the first story upward, will incur an outlay of perhaps:

For wood-work \$9489.00; for stone-work \$1998.00; for brick-work \$9275.00. The present outlay and debt for digging, foundation, material, and the like amounts to some \$6400. The building therefore, including foundation, stone-mason, and all carpenter-work, will cost some \$27,000.

This to be sure is only an approximate statement; but it is so nearly correct, that during and after the fulfillment of these contracts,

without including plastering, roofing, painting and other things, and deducting the amount now in the Treasury, some 21 or 22 thousand Dollars will still be needed. The whole building will therefore cost some forty-thousand Dollars.

Contracts, with the exception of a few of an earlier date, are so adjusted that payments are to be made thereon, viz. one-third during the progress of the work, one-third after its completion and the remaining third six months later. For farther information reference may be had to the minutes of the building committee.

If therefore the necessary funds can not at present be obtained by the sale of the old property, it must at least in part be procured in the way of loans. The advice and direction of Synod in this matter is very desirable.

This places before us the matter concerning the erection of our new building. The building committee desires to know at this convention what is to be done and the way of doing the work.

If it is God's will we shall certainly be enabled to accomplish our task; but we dare not become indolent. May He make manifest unto us the right ways and the proper means for the attainment of our object, and to the honor of His name establish the work of our hands!

W. F. LEHMANN,
Treasurer of the Building Fund.

**ACTION OF SYNOD WITH REFERENCE TO THE PUBLICATION OF AN ENGLISH
LUTHERAN CHILD'S PAPER.***

J. H. Spielman offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS the need of an English Lutheran Child's paper, true to the Confessions of our dear Lutheran Church and devoted to the interests of our Synodical Conference, is a want sorely felt by the English charges within our Synodical bounds.

Resolved, That a committee be now appointed who shall, if possible before the close of Synod, present a plan for the publication of such a paper.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and Prof. C. H. L. Schuette, J. H. Spielman and Prof. E. Schmid appointed said committee.

1. The name of the paper shall be: Lutheran Child's Paper.
2. Its Confessional basis shall be that of our Church.
3. As to form, size and arrangement, the Kinderblatt shall serve as a model.

* The original papers concerning this matter having been lost, the contents of the same are here given from memory.

4. It shall be the property of Synod, and be edited by a committee appointed by Synod.

5. It shall be published monthly at Columbus, O., and the first issue, or prospectus, is to appear on or before the 15. of December '74.

6. The schedule of prices is to be the same as that of similar publications.

7. The funds needed in the publication of the paper are to be drawn from the Publication treasury of Joint Synod, and, as soon as the paper becomes self sustaining, the surplus is to flow back into the Publication treasury.

C. H. L. SCHUETTE, J. H. SPIELMAN,
E. SCHMID.

Synod having adopted above report, appointed the following committee: Prof. C. H. L. Schuette, Pastor H. A. Becker and Mr. J. H. Spielman.

IV. OTHER ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS.

1. *Education of School teachers.* Since it seemed impossible for the present that our Synod should take steps toward the erection of a teachers' Seminary, and the want of school teachers who have been properly instructed and are faithful to our confessions is constantly growing stronger, a committee was appointed, consisting of Prof. M. Loy, Prof. E. Schmid, and Pastor G. F. H. Meiser, with instructions to confer with the Synod of Missouri in regard to the reception of our students in their Teacher's Seminary at Addison, Ill., and afterwards to publish the result of such conference in our church papers.

2. *The Concordia Synod.* This Synod has made application for reception into the Synodical Conference. Since such reception could not be effected without the consent of all the Synods forming the Synodical Conference, the matter was submitted to our Synod also. But inasmuch as the constitution of the Concordia Synod was not at hand, it was

Resolved, That nothing could be done in the matter at this convention of Synod.

3. *Board of Education.* To this Board were elected Professors W. F. Lehmann, M. Loy, E. Schmid, and C. H. L. Schuette, and Pastors R. Herbst, F. Groth and J. A. Schulze.

4. *Resolutions of Thanks.* By special resolutions the thanks of this Synod were returned,

a. to the beloved congregation at Hamilton, Ohio, for its very friendly hospitality,

b. to the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton R. R. Company for kindly granting to all members of Synod who had traveled to Hamilton by way of this road the privilege of a free ticket on their return.

5. *Minutes of Synod.* It was

Resolved, That 2500 German and 1000 English copies shall be printed.

6. *Time and place of the next meeting of the Joint Synod.* The next Synod shall be opened, D. v., on Wednesday before the full moon in October 1876, in Richmond, Ind.

H. A. BECKER, *Eng. Rec. Secretary.*

DIVINE SERVICE DURING THE SYNOD.

Wednesday evening, Pastoral sermon, by the President, Prof. M. Loy. Heb. 13, 9.

Thursday evening, sermon on congregational schools. Pastor G. F. H. Meiser.

Friday evening, sermon by Pastor H. F. Belser. 1 Cor. 4, 20.

Saturday afternoon, Preparatory sermon. Pastor G. Doepken.

Sunday morning, sermon by Prof. W. F. Lehmann, Gospel Lesson for the day.

Sunday evening, sermon in the English language, Pastor H. A. Becker. Eph. 2, 8, 9.

Monday evening, Missionary sermon. Pastor G. Loewenstein.